Interlinking of cities in NER

326. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have cleared an ambitious project of interlinking the capital cities of seven States of North-East and Sikkim through a network of multi-lane expressways;

(b) if so, details of the project; and

(c) whether it is a road map for development of North-Eastern region and how far it would contribute to boosting economy of the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) At present there is no proposal of interlinking the capital cities of seven States of North-East and Sikkim through a network of multi-lane expressways. However, there is a proposal to connect all State capitals which do not fall on the alignment of the Golden Quadrilateral or the North-South or East-West Corridors forming part of the National Highway Development Project (NHDP), through four lane highways with the NHDP. This includes capitals in the North East.

Highways in Orissa

327. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Highways in the country and the length in a kilometer, State-wise;

(b) the total number of roads declared in Orissa as Highways and fund allocated in the last five years, road-wise; and

(c) whether Orissa is getting less allocation in comparison to other neighbouring States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) There are 176 National Highways in the country with a total length of 58112 km. State-wise length of National Highways is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

(b) 6 numbers of roads were declared as National Highways in the State of Orissa in the last five years. This Ministry allocates funds State-wise and not National Highway-wise. During this period, Rs. 1308.10 crores were allocated for development and Rs. 294.82 crores for maintenance of National Highways in the State of Orissa.

(c) No, Sir.

Statement

State-wise length of National Highways

Sl.No.	Name of States	Total Length (in kilometer)
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4002
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	392
3.	Assam	2836
4.	Bihar	3312
5.	Chandigarh (UT)	24
6.	Chhattisgarh	1810
7.	Delhi	72
8.	Goa	269
9.	Gujarat	2461
10.	Haryana	1357
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1188
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	823
13.	Jharkhand	1603
14.	Karnataka	3570
15.	Kerala	1440
16.	Madhya Pradesh	4664
17.	Maharashtra	3626
18.	Manipur	954
19.	Meghalaya	717
20.	Mizoram	927
21.	Nagaland	369

(1)	(2)	(3)
22.	Orissa	3301
23.	Pondicherry (UT)	53
24.	Punjab	1557
25.	Rajasthan	4597
26.	Sikkim	62
27.	Tamil Nadu	3758
28.	Tripura	400
29.	Uttaranchal	1075
30.	Uttar Pradesh	4942
31.	West Bengal	1951
	TOTAL :	58112

Projects from West Bengal

328. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of West Bengal had forwarded thirteen projects for approval under Annual Plan, 2003-04;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the date on which these were forwarded;

(c) whether any further reminders have been received from the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether approvals have been accorded and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Thirteen estimates for the projects under Annual Plan 2003-04 were forwarded by the State Government of West Bengal during the period from April to October, 2003. However majority of these estimates were